

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Previously Presented). A method for treating cell necrosis or a neurodegenerative disorder associated therewith, comprising the inhibition of one or more intracellular elastase enzymes within said cell by means of administration of a therapeutically effective amount of one or more elastase inhibiting agents, wherein said elastase inhibitors are capable of entering said cell.

2 (Cancelled).

3 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the one or more elastase inhibiting agents administered cause partial conversion of necrosis to apoptosis, and wherein said method further comprises administration of an anti-apoptotic agent.

4 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the cells to be treated are neuronal cells.

5-14 (Cancelled).

15 (Previously Presented). A method for attenuating progression of cell necrosis or a neurodegenerative disorder associated therewith, comprising the inhibition of one or more intracellular elastase enzymes within said cell by means of administration of a therapeutically effective amount of one or more elastase inhibiting agents, wherein said elastase inhibitors are capable of entering said cell.

16 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein the one or more elastase inhibiting agents administered cause partial conversion of necrosis to

apoptosis, and wherein said method further comprises administration of an anti-apoptotic agent.

17 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 1, wherein the cells are neuronal cells.

18 (Previously Presented). A method for treating cell necrosis or a neurodegenerative disorder associated therewith, comprising administering to a subject in need a therapeutically sub-effective amount of one or more elastase inhibiting agents and a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-apoptotic agent, wherein said one or more elastase inhibiting agents and said anti-apoptotic agent have a synergistic protective effect against necrosis on said cells.

19 (Previously Presented). The method according to claim 15, wherein said necrosis is caused by injury or aging.

20 (Currently Amended). A method for treating cell necrosis or a neurodegenerative disorder associated therewith, comprising the inhibition of one or more elastase enzymes induced during said cell necrosis within said cell by means of administration of a therapeutically effective amount of one or more elastase inhibiting agents, wherein said elastase inhibitors are capable of entering said cell.